Preparatory Committee for the 2005 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons

22 April 2004
English
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Third session
New York, 26 April-7 May 2004

Working paper on prevention of the proliferation of nuclear weapons submitted by China

The Chinese Delegation hereby requests that the following elements be incorporated in the recommendations to the 2005 Review Conference of the States Parties to the Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT).

1. The prevention of nuclear weapons proliferation is an effective and necessary step towards the complete prohibition and thorough destruction of nuclear weapons. The efforts exerted by the international community to prevent nuclear weapons proliferation are an indispensable part of the international nuclear disarmament process.

2. All states should devote themselves to building a global security environment of cooperation and mutual trust, adopting a new security concept featuring mutual trust, mutual benefit, equality and cooperation, and ensuring common security for all members of the international community, thereby eliminating the motivations for some states to acquire, develop or maintain nuclear weapons.

3. All nuclear-weapon states should undertake not to be the first to use nuclear weapons and not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear weapon states or nuclear-weapon-free zones at any time or under any circumstances and conclude relevant international legal instrument.

4. Dialogue and international cooperation among countries as equal members of the international community on prevention of proliferation of nuclear weapons should be strengthened.

5. All concerns related to proliferation of nuclear weapons should be addressed through peaceful and political means in strict accordance with the obligations and procedures stipulated in relevant international legal instruments. Countries should refrain from willful use of force or threat of force. Double or multiple standards in non-proliferation must be discarded.

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6. The effectiveness and integrity of the NPT should be safeguarded. Each and every obligation of the NPT should be strictly abided by and fully implemented.

7. Universality of the NPT is an important component of preventing nuclear weapons proliferation. The accession to the NPT by Cuba and Timor Leste are welcome and appreciated. Countries that have not done so yet are urged to join the NPT as non-nuclear-weapon states as soon as possible and place all their nuclear facilities under the safeguards of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA).

8. IAEA safeguards should be strengthened and the universality of the Protocol Additional to the Safeguards Agreement with the IAEA should be promoted.

9. Measures should be taken to further strengthen nuclear export controls and support the efforts by the Zangger Committee and the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG) in this regard.

10. Non-proliferation and peaceful uses of nuclear energy should promote each other. Non-proliferation efforts should not impede peaceful uses of nuclear energy. Activities of peaceful uses of nuclear energy should be conducted under strict IAEA safeguards.

11. All states should strictly implement their respective international obligations, improve domestic export controls and relevant legislations and strengthen law enforcement.

12. Effective measures, including strengthened physical protection of nuclear material and facilities, should be taken to guard against and counter nuclear terrorism. Countries should enact or improve national laws and regulations on physical protection on the basis of their national conditions in order to prevent nuclear material from falling into the hands of terrorists or nuclear facilities from becoming targets of terrorist attacks. The efforts of IAEA to prevent nuclear terrorism should be supported and the amendment to the Convention on the Physical Protection of Nuclear Material should be completed at an early date.

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Working paper on nuclear-weapon-free zones submitted by China

The Chinese Delegation hereby requests that the following elements be incorporated in the recommendations to the 2005 Review Conference of the States Parties to the Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT).

1. Nuclear-weapon-free zones are of great significance in promoting nuclear disarmament, preventing proliferation of nuclear weapons and enhancing regional and global peace and stability.

2. All nuclear-weapon states should undertake unconditionally not to use or threaten to use nuclear weapons against non-nuclear-weapon states or nuclear-weapon-free zones and conclude international legal instrument thereupon.

3. The principles on Establishment of nuclear-weapon-free zones adopted by the United Nations Disarmament Mission in 1999 should be strictly observed.

4. The nuclear-weapon states should support efforts by non-nuclear-weapon states to establish nuclear-weapon-free zones, respect the legal status of nuclear-weapon-free zones, and undertake corresponding obligations in a legally binding manner.

5. The nuclear-weapon states should take measures to materialize security assurances provided in all nuclear-weapon-free zone treaties and relevant protocols in accordance with the provision of paragraph 5, article 7 in the Final Document of 2000 NPT Review Conference.

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Working paper on the peaceful uses of nuclear energy submitted by China

The Chinese Delegation hereby requests that the following elements be incorporated in the recommendations to the 2005 Review Conference of the States Parties to the Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT).

1. It is an important objective of the NPT to promote peaceful uses of nuclear energy and the relevant international cooperation. Enhanced efforts in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy are conducive to a comprehensive realization of all the objectives of the NPT and will be helpful in promoting nuclear disarmament and preventing nuclear weapons proliferation.

2. The prevention of nuclear weapons proliferation and the peaceful uses of nuclear energy are mutually complementary and inseparably linked with each other. Non-proliferation efforts should not undermine the right of all countries, especially that of the developing countries to the peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

3. The International Atomic Energy Agency maintaining a proper balance between the safeguards and the international cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy will conduce to ensuring by the member states active support and participation in the Agency's activities.

4. Technical assistance to the developing countries on peaceful uses of nuclear energy should be further strengthened.

5. Adequate fund should be guaranteed for the Agency's promotional and technical cooperation activities. All member states should contribute to the Technical Cooperation Fund in full and in time.

6. In order to guard against possible nuclear terrorist acts, the physical protection of nuclear material and nuclear facilities and relevant international cooperation should be strengthened, and the Agency's efforts in this respect should be supported.

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Working paper on the Middle East nuclear issue submitted by China

The Chinese Delegation hereby requests that the following elements be incorporated in the recommendations to the 2005 Review Conference of the States Parties to the Treaty on Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT).

1. Regional security and proliferation of weapons of mass destruction (WMD) are closely interrelated. Therefore the parties concerned should find a solution to the Middle East issue in a spirit of reconciliation. The United Nations, the Security Council in particular, should be supported to play a more active role in this process. The parties concerned should strictly implement their agreements and common understanding on the basis of the relevant UN resolutions and the principle of "land for peace".

2. The proposition and efforts by Middle East countries to establish a zone free of nuclear weapons and other WMDs in the Middle East should be supported. Efforts should be made to promote the establishment of such a zone in accordance with the UN General Assembly resolutions and the provisions of the resolution on the Middle East adopted at the 1995 Review Conference.

3. Libya decided to abandon its WMD programs and accept inspections by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). Iran decided to continue its cooperation with the IAEA for an early clarification of unresolved questions. These are all significant and positive for establishing a zone free of nuclear weapons or other WMDs in the Middle East.

4. Israel's accession to the NPT and placement of all its nuclear facilities under IAEA safeguards is essential for strengthening the international non-proliferation regime and establishing a zone free of nuclear weapons or other WMDs in the Middle East.

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